



GLAI press release welcoming Minister Shatter's announcement on gaming regulation
21st September 2011

The Gaming & Leisure Association of Ireland welcomes the announcement made by Minister Shatter today indicating his intention to regulate the gaming sector in Ireland. We applaud the work done thus far both by the Minister and the Department of Justice on this initiative which has taken six years to come to fruition.

Proper regulation of the gaming sector is good news for all stakeholders, not least the general public, and those currently employed in the sector. A properly regulated casino sector will bring Ireland in line with best international practice, and should facilitate a reduction in the incidence of problem gambling. Moreover a properly regulated gaming sector will undoubtedly lead to job creation over time.¹ We also concur with the Minister's view that 'resort style casinos' are not appropriate in the context of the Irish market, noting that while there is a demand for some form of casino entertainment, it would not be sufficient to sustain a large scale casino.

While we welcome the announcement in principle we will have to examine the proposals in detail and look forward to engaging with the Government on the adoption of a workable Bill.

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¹ See DKM Report "Economic Assessment of a regulated Casino Gaming Sector";
www.glai.ie/downloads/policy/dkm_report_2008.pdf